

REMARKS

This Amendment is in response to the Office Action mailed November 23, 2005. In the Office Action, claims 1-11 are allowed and claims 12-17 and 19-20 are rejected. Claim 18 has been objected as being based on a rejected base claim, but is considered to include allowable subject matter. Herein, claim 12 has been amended to include limitations from objected claim 18. Claims 19-20 have been cancelled without prejudice. Claim 21 has been added based on discussions with the Examiner and verbal agreement to enter the claim. Applicant respectfully submits that all of the pending claims are in condition for allowance.

Examiner's Interview

The Examiner and the undersigned attorney conducted a telephone conference on or around February 6, 2006. The Examiner is thanked for his time and attention to this matter. The Examiner verbally agreed that independent claim 12 as presented is in condition for allowance. Also, claim 21 is in condition for allowance if filed with the response to the Final Office Action.

Conclusion

In view of the amendments set forth above, it is respectfully submitted that pending claims 1-18 and 21 are in condition for allowance. Such action is earnestly solicited at the Examiner's earliest availability.

Respectfully submitted,

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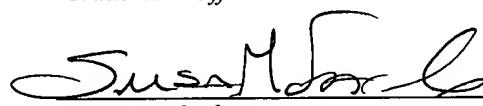
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